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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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LLC; ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
INC.; CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.; LAFACE
RECORDS LLC; SONY BMG MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT; and MOTOWN RECORD
COMPANY, L.P.

E-filing

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RMW
RS

UMG RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware
corporation; ARISTA RECORDS LLC, a
Delaware limited liability company; ELEKTRA
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC., a Delaware
corporation; CAPITOL RECORDS, INC., a
Delaware corporation; LAFACE RECORDS
LLC, a Delaware limited liability company;
SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT, a
Delaware general partnership; and MOTOWN
RECORD COMPANY, L.P., a California
limited partnership,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOHN DOE,

Defendant.

CV 07

6033

MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT
OF *EX PARTE* APPLICATION FOR LEAVE
TO TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Plaintiffs, record companies who own the copyrights in the most popular sound recordings in
3 the United States, seek leave of the Court to serve limited, immediate discovery on a third party
4 Internet Service Provider ("ISP") to determine the true identity of Defendant John Doe , who is
5 being sued for direct copyright infringement. Without such discovery, Plaintiffs cannot identify
6 Defendant , and thus cannot pursue their lawsuit to protect their copyrighted works from repetitive,
7 rampant infringement.¹

8 As alleged in the complaint, Defendant , without authorization, used an online media
9 distribution system (e.g., a peer-to-peer or "P2P" system) to download Plaintiffs' copyrighted works
10 and/or distribute copyrighted works to the public. See Declaration of Carlos Linares ("Linares
11 Decl."), ¶ 18 (filed simultaneously herewith). Although Plaintiffs do not know the true name of
12 Defendant ,² Plaintiffs have identified Defendant by a unique Internet Protocol ("IP") address
13 assigned to Defendant on the date and at the time of Defendant's infringing activity. Id.
14 Additionally, Plaintiffs have gathered evidence of the infringing activities. Id. ¶¶ 14-15, 19.
15 Plaintiffs have downloaded a sample of several of the sound recordings Defendant illegally
16 distributed and have evidence of every file (numbering in the hundreds) that Defendant illegally
17 distributed to the public. Id.

18 Plaintiffs have identified the ISP that provided Internet access to Defendant by using a
19 publicly available database to trace the IP address for Defendant. Id. ¶¶ 12, 18. Here, the ISP is
20 University of California, Berkeley ("U. Cal. Berkeley"). Id. When given a Defendant's IP address
21 and the date and time of infringement, an ISP quickly and easily can identify the name and address
22 of a Doe Defendant (i.e., the ISP's subscriber) because that information is contained in the ISP's
23 subscriber activity log files. Id. ¶ 16.³ Plaintiffs' experience is that ISPs typically keep log files of
24

25
26 ¹ Because Plaintiffs do not currently know the identity of the Defendant, Plaintiffs cannot ascertain the
27 Defendant's position on this *Ex Parte* Application.

28 ² When using a P2P system (e.g., Ares, eDonkey, Gnutella, BitTorrent, or DirectConnect), a Defendant
typically uses monikers, or user names, and not his true name. Linares Decl., ¶ 10. Plaintiffs have no ability to
determine a Defendant's true name other than by seeking the information from the ISP. Id. ¶¶ 10, 16.

³ ISPs own or are assigned certain blocks or ranges of IP addresses. A subscriber gains access to the Internet
through an ISP after setting up an account with the ISP. An ISP then assigns a particular IP address in its block or range

1 subscriber activities for only limited periods of time – which can range from as short as a few days,
 2 to a few months – before erasing the data. *Id.* ¶ 24. Plaintiffs alert the ISP to the existence of the
 3 copyright claims shortly after identifying the infringing activity and ask the ISP to maintain the log
 4 files.

5 Plaintiffs now seek leave of the Court to serve limited, immediate discovery on U. Cal.
 6 Berkeley to identify the Defendant. Plaintiffs intend to serve a Rule 45 subpoena on U. Cal.
 7 Berkeley seeking documents, including electronically-stored information, sufficient to identify the
 8 Defendant's true name, current (and permanent) addresses and telephone numbers, e-mail addresses,
 9 and Media Access Control ("MAC") addresses. If U. Cal. Berkeley cannot link the IP address listed
 10 in the subpoena to a specific individual, Plaintiffs seek all documents and electronically-stored
 11 information relating to the assignment of that IP address at the date and time the IP address was used
 12 to infringe Plaintiffs' copyrighted sound recordings. Once Plaintiffs learn the Defendant's
 13 identifying information, Plaintiffs will attempt to contact Defendant and attempt to resolve the
 14 dispute. If the dispute is not resolved and it is determined that it would be more appropriate to
 15 litigate the copyright infringement claims in another jurisdiction, Plaintiffs will dismiss the present
 16 lawsuit against Defendant and re-file in the appropriate jurisdiction. Without the ability to obtain the
 17 Defendant's identifying information, however, Plaintiffs may never be able to pursue their lawsuit to
 18 protect their copyrighted works from repeated infringement. *Id.* ¶ 24. Moreover, the infringement
 19 may be ongoing such that immediate relief is necessary. Thus, the need for the limited, immediate
 20 discovery sought in this *Ex Parte* Application is critical.

21 **II. BACKGROUND**

22 The Internet and P2P networks have spawned an illegal trade in copyrighted works. *See*
 23 MGM Studios Inc. v. Grokster, Ltd., 545 U.S. 913, 923 (U.S. 2005). By downloading P2P software,
 24 and logging onto a P2P network, an individual can upload (distribute) or download (copy), without
 25 authorization, countless copyrighted music and video files to or from any other P2P network user
 26 worldwide. *See id.* at 920 (detailing the process used by infringers to download copyrighted works);
 27

28 to the subscriber when that subscriber goes "online." After reviewing the subscriber activity logs (which contain the
 assigned IP addresses), an ISP can identify its subscribers by name. Linares Decl., ¶ 16.

1 A&M Records, Inc. v. Napster, Inc., 239 F.3d 1004, 1014 (9th Cir. 2001) (stating that infringers use
 2 P2P networks to copy and distribute copyrighted works); Universal City Studios, Inc. v. Reimerdes,
 3 111 F. Supp. 2d 294, 331 (S.D.N.Y.), aff'd sub nom., Universal City Studios, Inc. v. Corley, 273
 4 F.3d 429 (2d Cir. 2001) (describing a viral system, in which the number of infringing copies made
 5 available multiplies rapidly as each user copying a file also becomes a distributor of that file). Until
 6 enjoined, Napster was the most notorious online media distribution system. Grokster, 545 U.S. at
 7 924. Notwithstanding the Napster Court's decision, similar online media distribution systems
 8 emerged that have attempted to capitalize on the growing illegal market that Napster fostered. These
 9 include Ares, KaZaA, eDonkey, BitTorrent, DirectConnect, and Gnutella, among others. Linares
 10 Decl., ¶ 6. Despite the continued availability of such systems, there is no dispute that the uploading
 11 and downloading of copyrighted works without authorization is copyright infringement. Napster,
 12 239 F.3d at 1014-15; In re Aimster Copyright Litig., 334 F.3d 643 (7th Cir. 2003), cert. denied, 124
 13 S. Ct. 1069 (2004). Nonetheless, at any given moment, millions of people illegally use online media
 14 distribution systems to upload or download copyrighted material. Linares Decl., ¶ 6. More than 2.6
 15 billion infringing music files are downloaded monthly. L. Grossman, *It's All Free*, Time, May 5,
 16 2003, at 60-69.

17 The propagation of illegal digital copies over the Internet significantly harms copyright
 18 owners, and has had a particularly devastating impact on the music industry. Linares Decl., ¶ 9. The
 19 RIAA member companies lose significant revenues on an annual basis due to the millions of
 20 unauthorized downloads and uploads of well-known recordings that are distributed on P2P networks.
 21 Id. ¶ 9. Evidence shows that the main reason for the precipitous drop in revenues is that individuals
 22 are downloading music illegally for free, rather than buying it. See In re Aimster Copyright Litig.,
 23 334 F.3d at 645.

24 **III. ARGUMENT**

25 Courts, including this circuit, routinely allow discovery to identify "Doe" defendants. See
 26 Wakefield v. Thompson, 177 F.3d 1160, 1163 (9th Cir. 1999) (error to dismiss unnamed defendants
 27 given possibility that identity could be ascertained through discovery); Valentin v. Dinkins, 121 F.3d
 28 72, 75-76 (2d Cir. 1997) (vacating dismissal; *pro se* plaintiff should have been permitted to conduct

discovery to reveal identity of the defendant); Dean v. Barber, 951 F.2d 1210, 1215 (11th Cir. 1992) (error to deny the plaintiff's motion to join John Doe defendant where identity of John Doe could have been determined through discovery); Munz v. Parr, 758 F.2d 1254, 1257 (8th Cir. 1985) (error to dismiss claim merely because the defendant was unnamed; "Rather than dismissing the claim, the court should have ordered disclosure of the Officer Doe's identity"); Maclin v. Paulson, 627 F.2d 83, 87 (7th Cir. 1980) (where "party is ignorant of defendants' true identity . . . plaintiff should have been permitted to obtain their identity through limited discovery").

Indeed, in similar copyright infringement cases brought by Plaintiffs, and/or other record companies, against Doe defendants for infringing copyrights over P2P networks, many courts, including this Court, have granted Plaintiffs' motions for leave to take expedited discovery. See, e.g., Order, Maverick Recording Co. v. Does 1-4, Case No. C-04-1135 MMC (N.D. Cal. April 28, 2004); Order, Arista Records LLC v. Does 1-16, No. 07-1641 LKK EFB (E.D. Cal. Aug. 23, 2007); Order, Sony BMG Music Ent't v. Does 1-16, No. 07-cv-00581-BTM-AJB (S.D. Cal. Apr. 19, 2007); Order, UMG Recordings, Inc. v. Does 1-2, No. CV04-0960 (RSL) (W.D. Wash. May 14, 2004); Order, Loud Records, LLC v. Does 1-5, No. CV-04-0134-RHW (E.D. Wash. May 10, 2004); Order, London-Sire Records, Inc. v. Does 1-4, No. CV 04-1962 ABC (AJWx) (C.D. Cal. Apr. 2, 2004); Order, Interscope Records. v. Does 1-4, No. CV-04-131 TUC-JM (D. Ariz. Mar. 25, 2004) (true and correct copies of these Orders are attached hereto as Exhibit A). This Court should not depart from its well-reasoned decisions, or the well-reasoned decisions of other courts that have addressed this issue directly.

Courts allow parties to conduct expedited discovery in advance of a Rule 26(f) conference where the party establishes "good cause" for such discovery. See UMG Recordings, Inc., 2006 U.S. DIST. LEXIS 32821 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 6, 2000); Entertainment Tech. Corp. v. Walt Disney Imagineering, No. Civ. A. 03-3546, 2003 WL 22519440, at *4 (E.D. Pa. Oct. 2, 2003) (applying a reasonableness standard); Semitool, Inc. v. Tokyo Electron Am., Inc., 208 F.R.D. 273, 275-76 (N.D. Cal. 2002); Yokohama Tire Corp. v. Dealers Tire Supply, Inc., 202 F.R.D. 612, 613-14 (D. Ariz. 2001) (applying a good cause standard); Energetics Sys. Corp. v. Advanced Cerametrics, No. 95-7956, 1996 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2830, *5-6 (E.D. Pa. March 8, 1996) (good cause standard satisfied

1 where the moving party had asserted claims of infringement). Plaintiffs easily have met this
2 standard.

3 First, good cause exists where, as here, the complaint alleges claims of infringement. See
4 Interscope Records v. Does 1-14, No. 5:07-4107-RDR, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73627, *3 (D. Kan.
5 Oct. 1, 2007) (citations omitted) (“Good cause can exist in cases involving claims of infringement
6 and unfair competition); Energetics Sys. Corp., 1996 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 2830 at *5-6 (good cause
7 standard satisfied where the moving party had asserted claims of infringement); see also Semitool,
8 208 F.R.D. at 276; Benham Jewelry Corp. v. Aron Basha Corp., No. 97 CIV 3841, 1997 WL
9 639037, at *20 (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 14, 1997). This is not surprising, since such claims necessarily
10 involve irreparable harm to the plaintiff. 4 Melville B. Nimmer & David Nimmer, Nimmer On
11 Copyright § 14.06[A], at 14-103 (2003); see also Taylor Corp. v. Four Seasons Greetings, LLC, 315
12 F.3d 1034, 1042 (8th Cir. 2003); Health Ins. Ass’n of Am. v. Novelli, 211 F. Supp. 2d 23, 28
13 (D.D.C. 2002) (“A copyright holder [is] presumed to suffer irreparable harm as a matter of law when
14 his right to the exclusive use of copyrighted material is invaded.”) (quotations and citations omitted);
15 ABKCO Music, Inc. v. Stellar Records, Inc., 96 F.3d 60, 66 (2d Cir. 1996).

16 Second, good cause exists here because there is very real danger the ISP will not long
17 preserve the information that Plaintiffs seek. As discussed above, ISPs typically retain user activity
18 logs containing the information sought for only a limited period of time before erasing the data.
19 Linares Decl., ¶ 24. If that information is erased, Plaintiffs will have *no* ability to identify the
20 Defendant, and thus will be unable to pursue their lawsuit to protect their copyrighted works. Id.
21 Where “physical evidence may be consumed or destroyed with the passage of time, thereby
22 disadvantaging one or more parties to the litigation,” good cause for expedited discovery exists.
23 Interscope Records, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 73627 at *3 (citation omitted); see also Metal Bldg.
24 Components, L.P. v. Caperton, CIV-04-1256 MV/DJS, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 28854, *10-11
25 (D.N.M. April 2, 2004) (“Good cause is frequently found . . . when physical evidence may be
26 consumed or destroyed with the passage of time, thereby disadvantaging one or more parties to the
27 litigation.”) (citation omitted); Pod-Ners, LLC v. Northern Feed & Bean, 204 F.R.D. 675, 676 (D.
28 Colo. 2002) (allowing the plaintiff expedited discovery to inspect “beans” in the defendant’s

1 possession because the beans might no longer be available for inspection if discovery proceeded in
2 the normal course).

3 Third, good cause exists because the narrowly tailored discovery requests do not exceed the
4 minimum information required to advance this lawsuit and will not prejudice the Defendant. See
5 Semitool, 208 F.R.D. at 276 (“Good cause may be found where the need for expedited discovery, in
6 consideration of the administration of justice, outweighs the prejudice to the responding party.”).
7 Plaintiffs seek immediate discovery to identify the Defendant; information that may be erased very
8 soon. Plaintiffs (who continue to be harmed by Defendant’s copyright infringement, Linares Decl., ¶
9 9), cannot wait until after the Rule 26(f) conference (ordinarily a prerequisite before propounding
10 discovery) because there are no known defendants with whom to confer (and thus, no conference is
11 possible). There is no prejudice to the Defendant because Plaintiffs merely seek information to
12 identify the Defendant and to serve him or her, and Plaintiffs agree to use the information disclosed
13 pursuant to their subpoenas only for the purpose of protecting their rights under the copyright laws.
14 See Metal Bldg. Components, L.P., 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 28854 at *12 (where “the requested
15 discovery is relevant and will be produced in the normal course of discovery,” the court was “unable
16 to discern any prejudice or hardship to Defendant” if discovery is conducted “on an expedited
17 basis.”).

18 Fourth, courts regularly grant expedited discovery where such discovery will “substantially
19 contribute to moving th[e] case forward.” Semitool, 208 F.R.D. at 277. Here, the present lawsuit
20 cannot proceed without the limited, immediate discovery Plaintiffs seek because there is no other
21 information Plaintiffs can obtain about the Defendant without discovery from the ISP. As shown by
22 the Declaration of Carlos Linares, Plaintiffs already have developed a substantial case on the merits
23 against each infringer. Plaintiffs’ complaint alleges a *prima facie* claim for direct copyright
24 infringement. Plaintiffs have alleged that they own and have registered the copyrights in the works
25 at issue, and that the Defendant copied or distributed those copyrighted works without Plaintiffs’
26 authorization. See Complaint. These allegations state a claim of copyright infringement. Nimmer
27 On Copyright § 31.01, at 31-3 to 31-7; Feist Publications, Inc. v. Rural Tel. Serv. Co., 499 U.S. 340,
28 361 (1991). In addition, Plaintiffs have copies of a sample of several of the sound recordings that

1 the Defendant illegally distributed to the public and have evidence of every file that the Defendant
2 illegally distributed to the public. See Complaint Ex. A; Linares Decl., ¶¶ 18-19. These more
3 complete lists show hundreds of files, many of them sound recordings (MP3 files) that are owned by,
4 or exclusively licensed to, Plaintiffs. See Linares Decl., ¶ 19. Plaintiffs believe that virtually all of
5 the sound recordings have been downloaded and/or distributed to the public without permission or
6 consent of the respective copyright holders. Id. Absent limited, immediate discovery, Plaintiffs will
7 be unable to obtain redress for any of this infringement.

8 Finally, Plaintiffs request that the Court make clear that U. Cal. Berkeley is authorized to
9 respond to the subpoena pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C.
10 1232g ("FERPA"). Though FERPA generally prohibits disclosure of certain records by federally-
11 funded educational institutions, it *expressly* provides that information can be disclosed pursuant to
12 court order. *See* 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(2)(B). While Plaintiffs do not believe FERPA prevents the
13 disclosure of the information requested in the subpoena,⁴ universities and colleges have expressed
14 concern about their obligations under FERPA, and some have taken the position that a court order is
15 required before they will disclose subscriber information. Hence, Plaintiffs seek an appropriate
16 order explicitly authorizing U. Cal. Berkeley to comply with the subpoena under 20 U.S.C. §
17 1232g(b)(2)(B).

18 If the Court grants this *Ex Parte* Application, Plaintiffs will serve a subpoena on U. Cal.
19 Berkeley requesting documents that identify the true name and other information about Defendant
20 within 15 business days. U. Cal. Berkeley then will be able to notify its subscriber that this
21 information is being sought, and Defendant will be able to raise any objections before this Court in
22 the form of a motion to quash prior to the return date of the subpoena. Thus, to the extent that
23 Defendant wishes to object, he or she will be able to do so.

24
25
26
27
28 ⁴ Plaintiffs do not concede that FERPA prevents University of California, Berkeley, from disclosing the type of
information being requested by Plaintiffs, but believe that a properly framed court order will make resolution of that
issue unnecessary.

1 IV. CONCLUSION

2 For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant the *Ex Parte* Application and enter an
3 Order substantially in the form of the attached Proposed Order.

4 Dated: November 29, 2007

HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP

6 By: 

MATTHEW FRANKLIN JAKSA

Attorney for Plaintiffs

7 UMG RECORDINGS, INC.; ARISTA
8 RECORDS LLC; ELEKTRA
9 ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC.;
10 CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.; LAFACE
11 RECORDS LLC; SONY BMG MUSIC
12 ENTERTAINMENT; and MOTOWN
13 RECORD COMPANY, L.P.

Exhibit A

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RECORDS INC.; ARISTA RECORDS, INC.; VIRGIN
RECORDS AMERICA, INC.; UMG RECORDINGS, INC.;
INTERSCOPE RECORDS; BMG MUSIC; SONY MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT INC.; ATLANTIC RECORDING
CORP.; MOTOWN RECORD COMPANY, L.P.; and
CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

MAVERICK RECORDING COMPANY, a
California joint venture; WARNER BROS.
RECORDS INC., a Delaware corporation;
ARISTA RECORDS, INC., a Delaware
corporation; VIRGIN RECORDS AMERICA,
INC., a California corporation; UMG
RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware
corporation; INTERSCOPE RECORDS, a
California general partnership; BMG MUSIC,
a New York general partnership; SONY
MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT INC., a
Delaware corporation; ATLANTIC
RECORDING CORPORATION, a Delaware
corporation; MOTOWN RECORD
COMPANY, L.P., a California limited
partnership; and CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.,
a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DOES 1 - 4,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C-04-1135 MMC

**~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFFS' MISCELLANEOUS
ADMINISTRATIVE REQUEST FOR
LEAVE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE
DISCOVERY**

1 Upon the Miscellaneous Administrative Request of Plaintiffs For Leave To Take
 2 Immediate Discovery, the Declaration of Jonathan Whitehead and the exhibit thereto, Plaintiffs'
 3 Request for Judicial Notice, and the Declaration of Zuzana J. Svihra, it is hereby:

4 ORDERED that Plaintiffs may serve immediate discovery on the University of
 5 California, Berkeley to obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a Rule 45 subpoena
 6 that seeks information sufficient to identify each Doe Defendant, including the name, address,
 7 telephone number, e-mail address, and Media Access Control addresses for each Defendant.

8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT any information disclosed to Plaintiffs in
 9 response to the Rule 45 subpoena may be used by Plaintiffs solely for the purpose of protecting
 10 Plaintiffs' rights under the Copyright Act.

11 Without such discovery, Plaintiffs cannot identify the Doe Defendants, and thus
 12 cannot pursue their lawsuit to protect their copyrighted works from infringement.

13
 14 Dated: April 28, 2004

James Larson U.S. Magistrate Judge
~~United States District Judge~~

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8 Attorneys for Plaintiffs,
9 ARISTA RECORDS LLC; ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION;
10 BMG MUSIC; CAPITOL RECORDS, INC.; ELEKTRA
11 ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC.; INTERSCOPE RECORDS; LAFACE
12 RECORDS LLC; MAVERICK RECORDING COMPANY; MOTOWN
13 RECORD COMPANY, L.P.; PRIORITY RECORDS LLC; SONY BMG
14 MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT; UMG RECORDINGS, INC.; VIRGIN
15 RECORDS AMERICA, INC.; and WARNER BROS. RECORDS INC.

16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
17 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

18 ARISTA RECORDS LLC, a Delaware limited liability
19 company; ATLANTIC RECORDING
20 CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation; BMG
21 MUSIC, a New York general partnership; CAPITOL
22 RECORDS, INC., a Delaware corporation; ELEKTRA
23 ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC., a Delaware
24 corporation; INTERSCOPE RECORDS, a California
25 general partnership; LAFACE RECORDS LLC, a
26 Delaware limited liability company; MAVERICK
27 RECORDING COMPANY, a California joint venture;
28 MOTOWN RECORD COMPANY, L.P., a California
limited partnership; PRIORITY RECORDS LLC, a
California limited liability company; SONY BMG
MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT, a Delaware general
partnership; UMG RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware
corporation; VIRGIN RECORDS AMERICA, INC., a
California corporation; and WARNER BROS.
RECORDS INC., a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOES 1-16,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 07-1641 LKK EFB

**ORDER GRANTING EX PARTE
APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO TAKE
IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY**

1 Upon the Plaintiffs' *Ex Parte* Application for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery,
2 the Declaration of Carlos Linares, and the accompanying Memorandum of Law, it is hereby
3 ORDERED that Plaintiffs may serve immediate discovery on University of California, Davis to
4 obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a Rule 45 subpoena that seeks documents that
5 identify each Doe Defendant, including the name, current (and permanent) addresses and telephone
6 numbers, e-mail addresses, and Media Access Control addresses for each Defendant.

7 Although parties must generally meet and confer prior to seeking expedited
8 discovery, that requirement may be dispensed if good cause is shown. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d);
9 *Semitoool, Inc. v. Tokyo Electron Am., Inc.*, 208 F.R.D. 273, 275-76 (N.D. Cal. 2002). Here, the
10 plaintiffs have presented evidence that the subpoena is necessary to identify the defendants, serve
11 them with the complaint and summons, and prosecute their claims of copyright infringement. *See*
12 *Gillespie v. Civletti*, 629 F.2d 637, 642 (9th Cir. 1980) ("where the identity of alleged defendants
13 will not be known prior to the filing of a complaint . . . the plaintiff should be given an opportunity
14 through discovery to identify the unknown defendants, unless it is clear that discovery would not
15 uncover the identities, or that the complaint would be dismissed on other grounds."). Plaintiffs have
16 further averred that records kept by internet service providers ("ISP") such as the University of
17 California, Davis, are regularly destroyed, sometimes on a daily or weekly basis. *See* Linares
18 Declaration, at ¶ 24. Based on the foregoing, the court finds that plaintiffs have demonstrated good
19 cause for the expedited discovery.

20 The disclosure of this information is ordered pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(2)(B).
21 Consistent with that provision, if and when the University of California, Davis is served with a
22 subpoena, it shall, within five business days, give written notice to the subscribers whose identities
23 are to be disclosed in response to the subpoena. Such written notice may be achieved by messages
24 sent via electronic mail. If the University of California, Davis, and/or any defendant wishes to move
25 to quash the subpoena, they shall do so before the return date of the subpoena.

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1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT any information disclosed to Plaintiffs in
2 response to the Rule 45 subpoena may be used by Plaintiffs solely for the purpose of protecting
3 Plaintiffs' rights under the Copyright Act.

4
5 Dated: August 23, 2007.


EDMUND F. BRENNAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

FILED

2007 APR 23 PM 1:19

CLERK US DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BY RM DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT, a
Delaware general partnership; UMG
RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation;
ARISTA RECORDS LLC, a Delaware limited
liability company; CAPITOL RECORDS, INC., a
Delaware corporation; WARNER BROS.
RECORDS INC., a Delaware corporation;
INTERSCOPE RECORDS, a California general
partnership; PRIORITY RECORDS LLC, a
California limited liability company; ATLANTIC
RECORDING CORPORATION, a Delaware
corporation; FONOVisA, INC., a California
corporation; MAVERICK RECORDING
COMPANY, a California joint venture; MOTOWN
RECORD COMPANY, L.P., a California limited
partnership; ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT
GROUP INC., a Delaware corporation; BMG
MUSIC, a New York general partnership; VIRGIN
RECORDS AMERICA, INC., a California
corporation; and LAFACE RECORDS LLC, a
Delaware limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

v.

DOES 1 - 16,

Defendants.

Case 3:07-cv-00581-BTM-AJB

~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFFS' EX PARTE
APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO
TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY

1 Upon the Plaintiffs' *Ex Parte* Application for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery, the
2 Declaration of Carlos Linares, and the accompanying Memorandum of Law, it is hereby:

3 ORDERED that Plaintiffs may serve immediate discovery on SBC Internet Services, Inc. to
4 obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a Rule 45 subpoena that seeks documents that
5 identify each Doe Defendant, including the name, current (and permanent) addresses and telephone
6 numbers, e-mail addresses, and Media Access Control addresses for each Defendant. The disclosure
7 of this information is ordered pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 551(c)(2)(B).

8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT any information disclosed to Plaintiffs in response to the
9 Rule 45 subpoena may be used by Plaintiffs solely for the purpose of protecting Plaintiffs' rights under
10 the Copyright Act.

11
12 DATED: 4-19-07

By: 
United States District Judge



04-CV-00960-ITP

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

UMG RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation; ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation; WARNER BROS. RECORDS INC., a Delaware corporation; SONY MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT INC., a Delaware corporation; BMG MUSIC, a New York general partnership; and VIRGIN RECORDS AMERICA, INC., a California corporation,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOES 1 - 2,

Defendants.

No. 04-09600-L

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO
TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY

Upon the Motion of Plaintiffs for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery and the supporting Memorandum of Law, and the declaration of Jonathan Whitehead and the exhibit thereto, it is hereby:

ORDERED that Plaintiffs may serve immediate discovery on Microsoft Corporation to obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a Rule 45 subpoena that seeks information sufficient to identify each Doe Defendant, including the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and Media Access Control addresses for each Defendant.

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO
TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY
Page 1

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1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT any information disclosed to Plaintiffs in
2 response to the Rule 45 subpoena may be used by Plaintiffs solely for the purpose of
3 protecting Plaintiffs' rights under the Copyright Act.

4
5 Dated: May 14, 2008

M. S. Carmik
United States District Judge

FILED IN THE
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

MAY 10 2004

JAMES R. CARSEN, CLERK
DEPUTY
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

LOUD RECORDS, LLC, a
Delaware corporation; WARNER
BROS. RECORDS INC., a
Delaware corporation; ATLANTIC
RECORDING CORPORATION, a
Delaware corporation; VIRGIN
RECORDS AMERICA, INC., a
California corporation; PRIORITY
RECORDS LLC, a California
limited liability company;
ELEKTRA ENTERTAINMENT
GROUP INC., a Delaware
corporation; BMG RECORDINGS,
INC. a Delaware corporation;
ARISTA RECORDS, INC., a
Delaware corporation; BMG
MUSIC, a New York general
partnership; SONY MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT INC., a
Delaware corporation; MAVERICK
RECORDING COMPANY, a
California joint venture; and
CAPITOL RECORDS, INC., a
Delaware corporation,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOES 1-5,

Defendants.

NO. CV-04-0134-RHW

**ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS'
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO TAKE
IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY**

Before the Court is Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave to Take Immediate
Discovery (Ct. Rec. 7). The Plaintiffs, members of the Recording Industry
Association of America, Inc. ("RIAA"), have filed a complaint alleging that DOES

**ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO TAKE
IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY * 1**

1 1-5 illegally engaged in uploading and downloading copyrighted recordings
2 through www.KaZaA.com, a peer to peer ("P2P") internet service (Ct. Rec. 1).
3 While Plaintiffs are unable to identify the Does, they collected records of
4 Defendants' Internet Protocol ("IP") address, the times the downloads or uploads
5 took place, and information regarding the specific recordings that were
6 downloaded or uploaded. The Plaintiffs were able to ascertain from Defendants'
7 IP addresses that they were utilizing Gonzaga University as their Internet Service
8 Provider ("ISP"). Plaintiffs seek statutory damages under 17 U.S.C. § 504(c),
9 attorneys fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505, and injunctive relief under
10 17 U.S.C. §§ 502 and 503.

11 In their Motion for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery, the Plaintiffs seek
12 leave to serve Gonzaga University, the ISP for Does 1-5, with a Rule 45 Subpoena
13 Duces Tecum, requiring Gonzaga University to reveal the Defendant's names,
14 addresses, email addresses, telephone number, and Media Access Control
15 ("MAC") addresses.

16 The Ninth Circuit has held that "where the identity of alleged defendants
17 will not be known prior to the filing of a complaint . . . the plaintiff should be
18 given an opportunity through discovery to identify the unknown defendants,
19 unless it is clear that discovery would not uncover the identities, or that the
20 complaint would be dismissed on other grounds." *Gillespie v. Civiletti*, 629 F.2d
21 637, 642 (9th Cir. 1980). Presumably, the discovery device anticipated by this
22 ruling was Rule 45, under which a party may compel a nonparty to produce
23 documents or other materials that could reveal the identities. *See Pennwalt Corp.*
24 *v. Durand-Wayland, Inc.*, 708 F.2d 492 (9th Cir. 1983). The Court finds that this
25 instance presents the very situation indicated by *Gillespie*. The Plaintiffs' case
26 relies on the disclosure of the Does' identities, and those identities are likely
27 discoverable from a third party.

28 Under Rule 26(d), Rule 45 subpoenas should not be served prior to a Rule

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO TAKE
IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY * 2

1 26(f) conference unless the parties can show good cause. Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d) ("a
2 party may not seek discovery from any source before the parties have conferred as
3 required by Rule 26(f) . . . [u]nless the court upon motion . . . orders
4 otherwise"); see *Semitoool, Inc. V. Tokyo Electron Am., Inc.*, 208 F.R.D. 273, 275-
5 76 (N.D. Cal. 2002). The Plaintiffs have presented compelling evidence that the
6 records kept by ISP providers of IP addresses are regularly destroyed. Thus, good
7 cause has been shown.

8 Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that:

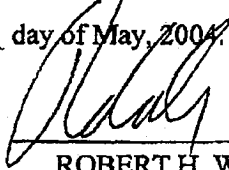
9 1. Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery (Ct. Rec.
10 7) is **GRANTED**.

11 2. Plaintiffs are **GIVEN LEAVE** to serve immediate discovery on
12 Gonzaga University to obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a
13 Rule 45 subpoena duces tecum that seeks each Doe Defendants' name, address,
14 telephone number, email address, and Media Access Control address. As agreed
15 by Plaintiffs, this information disclosed will be used solely for the purpose of
16 protecting their rights under the copyright laws.

17 3. Plaintiffs are **ORDERED** to review Local Rule 7.1(g)(2) regarding the
18 citation of unpublished decisions. All unpublished decisions cited to the Court
19 have been disregarded.

20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.** The District Court Executive is hereby directed to
21 enter this order and to furnish copies to counsel of record.

22 DATED this 10 day of May, 2004.

23
24 
25 ROBERT H. WHALEY
26 United States District Judge

27 Q:\Civil\2004\Loud Records\Loud.immediatediscovery.order.wpd
28

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO TAKE
IMMEDIATE DISCOVERY * 3

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04/02/04 FRI 17:22 FAX 213 894 1815 U.S. DISTRICT COURT

003

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL MINUTES--GENERAL

Generally, parties must meet and confer prior to seeking expedited discovery. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f). That requirement, however, may be dispensed with if good cause is shown. See Semitool, Inc. v. Tokyo Electron Am., Inc., 208 F.R.D. 273, 275-76 (N.D. Cal. 2002). Plaintiffs have shown good cause. The true identities of defendants are unknown to plaintiffs, and this litigation cannot proceed without discovery of defendants' true identities. [See Memorandum 7-9].

Subject to the following qualifications, plaintiffs' ex parte application for leave to take immediate discovery is granted.

If USC wishes to file a motion to quash the subpoena or to serve objections, it must do so before the return date of the subpoena, which shall be no less than twenty-one (21) days from the date of service of the subpoena. Among other things, USC may use this time to notify the subscribers in question.

USC shall preserve any subpoenaed information or materials pending compliance with the subpoena or resolution of any timely objection or motion to quash.

Plaintiffs must serve a copy of this order on USC when they serve the subpoena.

Any information disclosed to plaintiffs in response to the Rule 45 subpoena must be used by plaintiffs solely for the purpose of protecting plaintiffs' rights under the Copyright Act as set forth in the complaint.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

cc: Parties

MINUTES FORM 11
CIVIL-GEN

Initials of Deputy Clerk _____

Received 03/30/2004 09:44AM in 02:06 on line [11] for RHARRIS * Pg 2/3

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MAR 30 2004	
CLERK U S DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF ARIZONA	
BY	DEPUTY

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Interscope Records, et al.,
Plaintiffs,

No. CV-04-131 TUC - JM

v.

ORDER

Docs 1 - 4,

Defendants.

Pending before the Court is the Plaintiffs' *ex parte* Motion for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery [Docket No. 2]. Upon consideration of the Motion and the supporting Memorandum of Law, and the declaration of Jonathan Whitehead and the exhibit attached thereto, it is hereby:

ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery [Docket No. 2] is GRANTED;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs may serve immediate discovery on the University of Arizona to obtain the identity of each Doe Defendant by serving a Rule 45 subpoena that seeks information sufficient to identify each Doe Defendant, including the name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and Media Access Control addresses for each Defendant;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any information disclosed to Plaintiffs in response to the Rule 45 subpoena shall be used by Plaintiffs solely for the purpose of protecting Plaintiffs' rights under the Copyright Act as set forth in the Complaint;

JM

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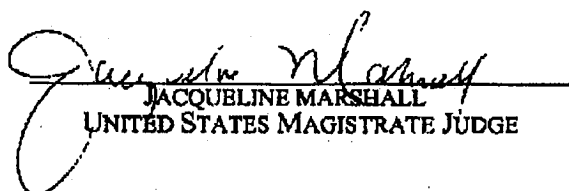
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1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if and when the University of Arizona is served
2 with a subpoena, within five (5) business days thereof it shall give written notice, which can
3 include use of e-mail, to the subscribers whose identities are to be disclosed in response to
4 the subpoena. If the University of Arizona and/or any Defendant wishes to move to quash
5 the subpoena, they shall do so before the return date of the subpoena, which shall be twenty-
6 five (25) business days form the date of service;

7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if and when the University of Arizona is served
8 with a subpoena, the University of Arizona shall preserve the data and information sought
9 in the subpoena pending resolution of any timely filed motion to quash;

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that counsel for Plaintiffs shall provide a copy of this
11 Order to the University of Arizona when the subpoena is served.

12 Dated this 25th day of March, 2004.

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15 
16 JACQUELINE MARSHALL
17 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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